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CONE HOLDER FOR ICE CREAM CONES
[Aisu Kurimu yo Kon Kappu Hojigu]

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TITLE (54): CONE HOLDER FOR ICE CREAM CONES

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(54) [Title of the Invention]

CONE HOLDER FOR ICE CREAM CONES

(57) [Abstract]

[Subject] A cone holder for ice cream cones that prevents soiling hands with dripped ice cream while holding the ice cream to eat and provides a sense of stability.

[Means to Solve Problems] In addition to an opening in the center of a flat base supported by multiple flaps formed by scored slits emanating from this opening, there are outside walls formed by folding up the outer sections of the base.

[Claims]

[Claim 1] A cone holder for ice cream cones such as soft serve ice cream comprised of an opening in the center of a flat base supported by multiple flaps formed by scored slits emanating from this opening, as well as outside walls formed by folding up the outer sections of the base.

[Claim 2] A cone holder for ice cream cones such as soft serve ice cream as claimed in Claim 1 that is comprised of opening support flaps around the insertion hole in the center of the base and multiple scores extending out from the edges of the insertion hole.

[Claim 3] A cone holder for ice cream cones such as soft serve ice cream as claimed in Claim 1 and Claim 2 where the base is not a simple circle but has multiple scores extending from the side walls of the base.

[Detailed Explanation of the Invention]

[0001] [Industrial Field of Application]

This invention relates to a cone holder for ice cream cones used when eating ice cream such as soft serve ice cream.

[0002] [Existing Technology]

Ice cream, such as soft serve ice cream, is generally served piled up on top of an ice cream cone and the bottom of the cone is held in the hand for eating. Frozen ice cream gradually melts at room temperature so there is a problem when the drops of melted ice cream drip down the cone and soil the fingers and hand. The existing improved ice cream cone is shown in Fig. 7 where the cone **61** has a two-ply structure of a drip receptacle **65** in between the inner cone **63** and the outer cone **62**. Drips fall into the receptacle and prevent fingers and hands from becoming soiled (Kokai 61-66491).

[0003] [Problems this Invention is to Solve]

The following problems continue to exist. The cone holder with the two-ply structure has a shape that is complex and it is never easy to position a quasi-liquid ice cream, such as soft serve ice cream only on the inner cone. It is not practical in the food service industry where speed is essential. The cone holder with the two-ply structure requires a manufacturing process that is more difficult than usual, which increases costs and has very little relationship to the sales price of the ice cream.

[0004] Placing ice cream, such as soft serve on a cone increases its height and raises the center of gravity so keeping the ice cream on a conical shaped cone is involves much instability. In particular, since soft serve ice cream is most often eaten by holding in the hand while walking around, there are many accidents where the ice cream cone is dropped due to losing one's balance.

[0005] This invention has considered the problems mentioned above, and has the objective of providing a cone holder for ice cream

cones that prevents dripping melted ice cream from soiling the hands when eating soft serve and other ice creams held in the hands, and that gives a greater sense of stability.

[0006] [Means of Solving These Problems]

To achieve the objectives listed above, the invention claimed in Claim 1 is a cone holder for ice cream cones such as soft serve ice cream comprised of an opening in the center of a flat base supported by multiple flaps formed by scored slits emanating from this opening, as well as outside walls formed by folding up the outer sections of the base.

[0007] With this invention, after placing the ice cream on the cone, the lower tip of the cone can be inserted into the center of the base of the cone cup holder. Since the lower tip of the cone is generally pointed, the opening support flaps formed from scored slits extending from the center of the base naturally bend down so the lower tip of the cone is inserted naturally and the opening support flaps lightly press against the side of the cone so the cup holder secures the cone in the center.

[0008] As claimed in Claim 2, this invention claimed in Claim 1 is comprised of opening support flaps around the insertion hole in the center of the base and multiple scores extending out from the edges of the insertion hole.

[0009] With this invention, after placing the ice cream on the cone, the tip of the cone can be inserted into the center of the base of the cone cup holder. The scores formed around the insertion hole in the center of the base naturally extends down so the cone holder stabilizes the cone in the center.

[0010] As claimed in Claim 3, this invention claimed in Claim 1 and 2 is comprised of a base that is not a simple circle but has multiple scores extending from the side walls of the base.

[0011] With this invention, the side walls of the cone holder can be simply and easily assembled by bending up the side walls of the base.

[0012] [Embodiment Examples]

Next is a description of the cone holder for ice cream cones relating to this invention, based on the attached figures. Figure 1 shows the ice cream cone holder relating to this invention as claimed in Claim 1. The ice cream cone holder **1** is constructed of a base **2** that is a 8cm square of 0.3mm thick paperboard that corresponds to the diameter of the cone with side walls approximately 1cm tall. The first fold **3** and second fold **11** separate the first side wall **4** and second side wall **12** (side walls are coordinated accordingly) from the base. The first side wall **4** is separated from the 1cm tall fold over flap **6** with the third fold **5**. Each fold over flap **6** has two notches **8** that are each 1cmm long and 3mm wide and both ends of the second side wall **12** are separated from the support **14** by the fourth fold **13**. In the center of the base **2**, there is a round insertion hole **17** about 1cm in diameter. There are 8 scored slits extending 2.5cm from the edge of the insertion hole that form the opening support flaps **19**. The fifth fold **16** connects the ends of these scored slits **18** in a circle. The notches **8** are inserted into the notch openings **9** after the piece is bent along the first fold **3**.

[0013] Figure 2 shows the assembly of the ice cream cone holder relating to this invention as claimed in Claim 1. As shown in Fig. 2,

the second side wall **12** is folded up along the second fold **11** at a 90° angle to the base **2** and then the support **14** is bent into position around the base **2** along the fourth fold **13.** Then, in the same manner, the first side wall **4** is folded up at a 90° angle to the base **2** along the first fold **3.** Next, with the support **14** on the inside, the side wall **6** is folded down along the third fold **5** at a 90° angle to the base **2** and the notches **8** protruding from the side wall **6** are inserted into the notch openings **9** and secured to assemble the exterior walls of the cone holder **1.** After all of these processes have been conducted via pressing and cutting, folding can be conducted by hand or automatically so the ice cream cone holder in this invention can be produced very economically.

[0014] Figure 4 shows an embodiment example of the ice cream cone holder relating to this invention as claimed in Claim 2. The ice cream cone holder **21** relating to this invention is constructed of a lightweight plastic material that is 0.05mm thick and has the identical construction as the invention claimed in Claim 1. As shown in Fig. 4, the base **2**, first side wall **23**, second side wall **32**, fold **24** and notch **29** assemble to form the exterior walls. In the center of the base **22**, there is a round insertion hole **27** about 1cm in diameter. There are 10 scores **28** in concentric circles around this at about 0.5mm intervals.

[0015] Figure 5 shows the cross-section of the ice cream cone holder **21** during use for this invention. After placing the ice cream on the cone **51**, the tip of the cone **51** is inserted into the center of the base on the cone holder **21.** The concentric scores **28** around the insertion hole **27** extend down to the tip **26** so the cone holder **21** is

secured in the center of the cone **51.** These concentric scores **28** are designed to fold down so when a cone **51** is inserted into the cone holder **21,** it is easily secured. All of these processes can be formed with a single press and automatically folded so it is identical to the invention claimed in Claim 1 in that the ice cream cone holder in this invention can be produced very economically.

[0016] Figure 6 shows an embodiment example of the ice cream cone holder relating to this invention as claimed in Claim 3. As shown in Fig. 6, the ice cream cone holder **41** in this invention is constructed of an aluminum material that is 0.1mm thick. The base **42** is round and has 1cm tall side walls **48** that are folded along the first fold **49.** There are multiple scores in the side wall **48** at 3mm intervals extending from the base **42.** There is an insertion hole **44,** scores **45** and second folds **43** that form the opening support flaps **46** in the center of the base **42.** This is formed in the same manner as the invention claimed in Claim 1. On some occasions, it can be constructed with the same insertion hole and concentric folds as the invention in Claim 2. With this invention, the exterior walls of the cone holder can be very easily assembled by folding the entire section of side wall **48** up along the first fold **49.** All of these processes can be formed with a single press and automatically folded so it is identical to the invention claimed in Claim 1 and Claim 2.

[0017] Naturally, the ice cream cone holder relating to this invention is not limited to the examples given. For example, the side walls of the substrate are not limited to the square or round shapes shown in the figures and various shapes such as triangles or star shapes can be employed. The method of forming the exterior walls is

not limited to the assembly by inserting notches or folding along concentric scores and it is possible to employ other methods such as adhesives approved for food use (specifically the brand name of Hot Melt) to secure each of the side walls. Also, the materials for the base are not limited to the paperboard, lightweight plastic and aluminum given.

[0018] [Effect of this Invention]

With the structure of this invention as given above, even if ice cream such as soft serve ice cream gradually melts and drips from the cone while being consumed, it accumulates on the base due to the side walls of the ice cream cone holder and prevents hands or fingers from becoming soiled. Even with ice cream covered with nuts, chocolate sprinkles or other toppings, it is very sanitary because the toppings do not drop outside of the exterior walls. As a result, ice cream such as soft serve is placed on the cone and then the bottom of the cone can be secured by being placed into the opening support flaps in the center of the base or inserted into the insertion hole, which is particularly useful in the food service industry where speed is required. Also, even when walking while eating ice cream such as soft serve, the ice cream cone is connected to the cone holder. The cone holder has a greater area than the cone itself so provides a more secure base for ice cream such as soft serve to be held in one’s hand. Even when taking ice cream such as soft serve home, the square or round cone holder is formed for insertion so the exterior walls of the cone holder offers a take-out container that is secure and very stable for transport.

[0019] [Brief Description of the Figures]

Figure 1 shows the ice cream cone holder relating to this invention claimed in Claim 1. Figure 2 shows the assembly of the ice cream cone holder relating to this invention claimed in Claim 1. Figure 3 shows the ice cream cone holder during use for this invention claimed in Claim 1. Figure 4 shows the ice cream cone holder relating to this invention claimed in Claim 2. Figure 5 shows the assembly of the ice cream cone holder during use for this invention claimed in Claim 2. Figure 6 shows the ice cream cone holder relating to this invention claimed in Claim 3. Figure 7 is a cross-section figure showing an existing ice cream cone holder

[Description of Symbols]

1 cone holder for ice cream cone

2 base

3 first fold

4 first side wall

5 second fold

6 fold over flap

8 notch

9 notch opening

11 third fold

12 second side wall

13 fourth fold

14 support

16 fifth fold

17 insertion hole

18 scored slits

19 opening support flaps

21 cone holder for ice cream cone

22 base

23 first side wall

24 fold over flap

26 tip

27 insertion hole

28 scores

29 notch

32 second side wall

41 cone holder unit for ice cream cone

42 base

44 insertion hole

45 scores

46 opening support flaps

48 side wall

49 first fold

50 ice cream

51 ice cream cone

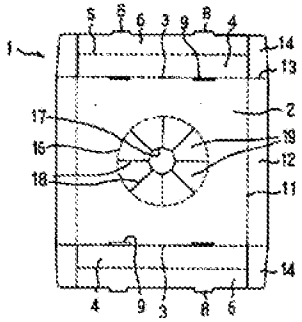
61 ice cream cone

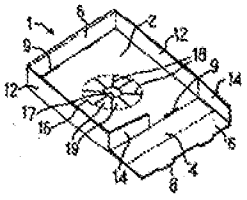
62 outer cone

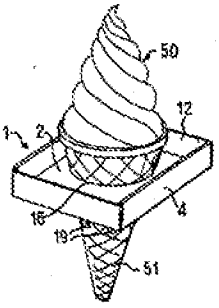
63 inner cone

65 drip receptacle

[Figure 1] [Figure 2] [Figure 3]







[Figure 4] [Figure 5] [Figure 6] [Figure 7]